

A NEW GENUS OF TERMITE GUEST FROM FIJI.

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The beetle described below, was collected by the writer on several different islands in Fiji, where individuals occur, one or two to a colony, with a termite (*Nasutitermes* sp.) common throughout the group and found in dead wood. They were running among the host where the latter were gathered thickest, in a manner common to many species of termitophiles, and similar in habits and behavior to our southern species, *Trichopsenius depressus* Lec.

Coleoptera, Staphylinidæ, Aleocharini.

Lauella gen nov.

Male. (Near *Perinthus* Casey.) Small, moderately slender. Head, small, not constricted at base, broader than long, sides and occiput convex, vertex flattened. Eyes occupying less than half sides of head, glabrous. Antennæ inserted in rather large and shallow foveæ near interior margin of eye; 11-jointed; first joint three times as long as the third, remaining joints sub-equal in length; joints 3-7 cylindrical, 8-11 compressed, the apical more strongly so than the others. Clypeus submembranous, anterior margin straight. Gula subcampanulate. Labrum twice as long as broad, the anterior border strongly, broadly and triangularly excised at the middle. Mandibles acute at the apex. Submentum and mentum not distinctly divided, together large and sub-quad-rangular, with the outer angles rounded. Ligula small, strongly excised apically; paraglossæ not visible. Labial palp thick basally; second joint half as broad as the basal; apical joint less than half as broad as the second. Maxillary palp 4-jointed, basal joint short, second and third joints subequal, the apical slender and much shorter than the third. Pronotum broader than long and a little broader behind than in front, sides strongly convex, anterior and posterior angles evenly rounded and not at all projecting. Elytra strongly transverse, nearly as broad and about two-thirds as long as pronotum, sides inflexed as in pronotum. Metasternum broad, episterna narrow; coxæ contiguous. Abdomen narrower at base

than elytra, rather slender and tapering; with six segments visible from above, the first four strongly margined. Legs short and broad; femora and tibiae rather strongly compressed; femora with short tibial grooves; tibiae rather broad, tarsi long and slender, 4-jointed on all the legs; claws small.



Fig. 1. Head of *Laella ritiensis* sp. nov.

ant, antennæ; c, cardo; g, galea; gu, gula; l, lacinia; li, ligula; m, anterior part of mentum (fulcrum); oc, eye; plb, labial palpus; pmx, maxillary palpus; pr, prostheca; sl, labial stipes; sm, posterior part of mentum (sub-mentum).

This genus is near *Perinthus* Casey, of which several species, all of termitophilous habit, are known from tropical America. *Laella* is distinct in having the antennæ more robust, cylindrical at base, and with only the last four joints flattened (much less strongly than in any species of *Perinthus*), the eyes are not setose and the anterior border of the labrum is very strongly excised at middle. The legs of *Perinthus* are much less compressed.

In the male of *Lauella* the last dorsal segment is broadly and triangularly impressed. In the female seven abdominal segments are visible from above.

Genotype.—*Lauella vitiensis* sp. nov.

***Lauella vitiensis* sp. nov.**

Length 2.50–2.75 mm. (Fig. 1.)

Dark brown, border of abdomen and appendages paler. Head, pronotum and elytra strongly shining, abdomen moderately so. Head, thorax and elytra sparsely and finely punctate; hairs widely separated, long and erect. Abdomen above densely, though superficially punctate; with a covering of fine, short and silky recumbent hairs, most sparse on the dorsum, and a series of long hairs which are suberect on the margins and nearly recumbent on the middle of dorsum.

Head less than half as broad as pronotum. Pronotum about one and one-half times as broad as long, broadest behind, sides little convex. Elytra together twice as broad as long, broadest in front, sides nearly straight, posterior border straight. Abdomen gradually tapering, a little longer than the anterior part of the body.

Described from several specimens taken at Vunisea, Kadavu (type locality); Waquava and Tuvuca, in the Fiji Islands.

The accompanying drawing of the under side of the head and the terminology of the same were kindly prepared by Dr. A. Böving.

NEW DIPTERA FROM TEXAS AND MEXICO.

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***Lepidostola perpolita* sp. nov.**

Male. Black, face shining, nearly perpendicular, with a slight middle convexity, sides of the face depressed, the depressions and orbits yellowish pruinose, inferior orbit yellow, frontal triangle shining, the upper angle yellow, in a certain light, a narrow orbital line is seen, expanding and forming a spot on each side, narrowly